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**Assembly  
California Legislature**  
**Elections, Reapportionment and  
Constitutional Amendments Committee**  
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Assemblymember, Sixty-Second District

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## **REDISTRICTING PLANS SUBMITTED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

### **I. GENERAL POLICY**

- A. It is important that all members of the public are able to have a voice and an effective role in an orderly and fair redistricting of California State Assembly, Senate, Congressional and Board of Equalization boundaries. Therefore, the Assembly Committee on Elections, Reapportionment and Constitutional Amendments will accept and consider redistricting proposals, recommendations and comments from any individual, organization or group. General comments and recommendations on the one hand and proposed redistricting plans on the other are subject to the submission procedures set forth below in paragraphs D and E respectively.
- B. The State's population database, which includes census data from the 2000 census, and is the data base used for redistricting, will be available to the public as of May 1, 2001, through the Institute of Governmental Studies, University of California at Berkeley. This database can be accessed through the Institute of Governmental Studies' website.  
(<http://swdb.berkeley.edu/>)
- C. The Committee will also maintain a redistricting website which will publish pertinent information regarding redistricting, including information regarding public hearings and proposed redistricting plans. This website can be accessed through the website of the Assembly Committee on Elections, Reapportionment and Constitutional Amendments  
(<http://www.assembly.ca.gov/erca>). The Committee website will also include a link to



caucus websites.

- D. The Committee will accept general comments and recommendations for redistricting and requests to consolidate, split or maintain specific communities of interest. Comments and recommendations may be submitted orally at Committee hearings, or in writing. Written materials may be submitted at public hearings or directly to the Assembly Redistricting Task Force (Legislative Office Building, 1020 “N” Street, Room 357, Sacramento, California 95814). Written back up to oral testimony is strongly recommended.

Comments, recommendations and requests should be accompanied by the following:

1. The name and contact information of the individual, organization or group submitting the comment or recommendation, including address and telephone number as well as fax and e-mail address, if available;
2. A description of the organization or group submitting the comment, recommendation or request; and
3. An explanation of the rationale for any recommendation or request.

- E. Any individual, organization or group may present a partial or total statewide redistricting plan to the Committee on Elections, Reapportionment, and Constitutional Amendments.

1. Due to ripple effects that any single proposed district will inevitably have on other districts, the Committee recommends that individuals, organizations and groups planning to submit a redistricting plan submit a complete statewide redistricting proposal rather than a partial plan. Amendments to a legislative proposal, or amendments to third party proposals will also be accepted. In order to enable meaningful consideration, any proposed amendment should be self-contained or otherwise formulated so as not to disrupt the population equality of an overall plan.
2. Redistricting plans must be submitted electronically through the Committee’s redistricting website. (<http://www.assembly.ca.gov/erca>) The format of the data and the procedure for electronic submission will be



described in detail on the Committee website. It is recommended that individuals, organizations and groups wishing to submit plans to the Committee use redistricting and data files provided by the Institute of Governmental Studies, University of California at Berkeley (<http://swdb.berkeley.edu/>) and recommended that they employ specially designed redistricting software to generate the plan they wish to submit. The Committee website will list software vendors whose products are capable of producing data files that can be used to form the basis of a plan for electronic submission to the Committee.

3. Assembly plans must include 80 districts; Senate plans must include 40 districts; Congressional plans must include 53 districts; and Board of Equalization plans must include 4 districts.
4. A plan must incorporate all geography and population of the State.
5. Submission of a plan or amendment to a proposed plan shall be accompanied by the following:
  - (a) The name and contact information of the individual, organization or group submitting the plan or amendment, including address and telephone number as well as fax and e-mail address, if available;
  - (b) The name and telephone number, as well as fax and e-mail address, if available, for key contacts for the organization or group, including technical consultants, if any, or persons responsible for drafting specific boundaries.
  - (c) A description of the organization or group submitting the plan or amendment;
  - (d) A description of which, if any, communities of interest the plan or amendment took into consideration and the impact on those communities of interest.

- F. All plans and recommendations submitted to the Committee should meet the substantive legal requirements applicable to redistricting and, to the extent practical, comport with



traditional redistricting criteria, including the following:

1. Population equality;
2. Compliance with requirements of the United States Constitution and the Voting Rights Act prohibiting race discrimination;
3. Contiguity of districts;
4. Consecutive numbering of districts from north to south;
5. Avoiding unnecessary city and county splits;
6. Preservation of geographical regions;
7. Respect for communities of interest;
8. Avoiding unnecessary vote deferral.

## **II. SUGGESTED TIMELINES**

- A. Submission of general comments, recommendations and requests: General comments, recommendations and requests will be accepted at any time. In order to ensure adequate evaluation and to provide enough time for the Legislature to incorporate public recommendations into the final legislative, congressional and Board of Equalization plans, the public is encouraged to submit comments, recommendations and requests as soon as practical.
- B. Proposed redistricting plans: Plans must be electronically submitted through the Assembly's redistricting website. Individuals, organizations and groups intending to submit plans may wish to wait until after public hearings are held and general comments submitted in order to take such matters into account in formulating plans. In order to assure time for consideration, proposed plans should be submitted by August 15, 2001, at the latest.
- C. Proposals for changes in legislative or third party plans should be submitted as soon as possible after the plans are made public.